

The Children's Newspaper, April 24, 1943

# TWENTY-THIRD OF APRIL

IT is the Twenty-Third of April this week, and the most clannish of our friends beyond the Tweed will not grudge England this great day. Great indeed is it this year, for it is Saint George's Day, Shakespeare's Day, and Good Friday.

What a threefold solemnity it is that runs through these twenty-four hours. All too often we live our lives lightly, thinking little; but let us think today.

If we think of all time past as a vast stretch of country we see far back in this great solitude a lonely Cross on a hill outside Jerusalem; all behind the life of the Man on that Cross is known to history as B.C., and all in front of it as A.D., the years Before Christ and the Years of Our Lord.

*The Cross stands in the midst of Time.*

If we take a globe of the world and turn it until we have in our view the greatest area of land that we can see at one time, we shall find a little red island whose patron saint is St George in the centre of it all.

*England is in the middle of the world.*

If we think of the greatest thing that the mind of man has created, the enduring literature of all nations, we find Shakespeare at the very head and heart of it, the mightiest intellectual force the world has ever known.

*It came from the very middle of England.*

WELL may we be moved this day by this trinity of wonder and solemnity, the most far-reaching event in the history of the world, the marvellous position of our Island, and the most powerful human mind that has ever exerted an influence on mankind. It is as if these three were meeting on this day.

## Dividing All Time

It is a day of dedication for us all, a day on which the nation may well pray that it shall be worthy of the power to lead the world to better days. In all the years that stretch far back beyond the Cross has been no hour so fraught with destiny as this in which we live. We have it in our grasp to build up a life of comfort and serenity for the human race or to fling it back to perfidy and misery. Once to every man and nation comes the moment to decide, and this is yours, ours. We are for a good or an evil world.

As we think of the Cross which divides all time for us there must come into our minds a feeling of the deep and boundless mystery of life. Think what we will of, Calvary, the fact of it is inescapable, and there is no page in a hundred thousand history books that can compare with it.

ON that Cross hung the gentlest and noblest man who ever lived, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. He had built up a little band of followers and sent them out into the world to teach men to love God and their neighbour. They had promised to be true to him till death, but when the soldiers came in the darkness of the night and took him captive, every friend that he had forsook him and fled. The one sinless man in all the world was alone, and the soldiers crucified him between two thieves.

That is the end, we should have said had we been there, but the end was not yet. Sunday followed Friday, resurrection followed death, victory followed on defeat. It is the everlasting witness that he who loses his life will save it, that sacrifice is the gate to the resurrection of all that is noblest and best.

It is not by miracle but by the working of the law that we pass through the fires and are purified. It is by giving that we receive, by sacrifice that all good things shall be added unto us. When the great hour comes to us we must hold back nothing, but give all we have and are.

THAT is the meaning of the Cross, and the fact of Calvary that has become the astonishment of mankind is this, that after nineteen hundred years there is no influence among men that can compare with his who hung between two thieves. To all men, clean or foul, he is the Saviour of Mankind, the sublimest figure Life has known in its countless years. His words have become the touchstone by which we judge our conduct; his spirit is the foundation on which our world is established. The sermon he preached on a mountain is more to us than all our laws.

## The Faith That Has Made Us

It has made our country what it is, and has sent our men to the ends of the earth to make the world a decent place for all. We have done our best in a world like this. It is the faith he taught us that has shaped our destiny. Since John Wycliffe opened the Bible for the English people and was persecuted for his daring, the life and message of Christ have been the inspiration of the nation. It has not yet given the world the example of a Christian State, for Christianity has not promised to put the world right for us in the morning; what it does is to give us the power to do it, and through all these centuries the heaven has been working in the lives of our people.

IF priestcraft took hold of them, they threw it off. If tyranny had them in its grip, they broke its chains. If slavery established itself under their protection, they ended it in the faith that Christ died for all. If the Industrial Age built up its prosperity with a callous selfishness, Christianity has swept away its evils and has brought into our national life a conviction that opportunity and justice must be equal for all. Evangelicalism, as Professor Trevelyan says, brought rectitude, unselfishness, and humanity into high places.

## Calvary of Our Race

We are not to judge a nation's religion by the state of public worship. Christianity cannot live by churches alone. Shakespeare, too, was a spark of the eternal God. The spirit moves in a mysterious way and has messengers uncounted and unseen. Shakespeare believed in hidden powers and destinies and was a part of them. In him the human mind ascended to its summit, and through him inspiration glows like a fire in the life of men in every age and every land. Who can forget the picture of Abraham Lincoln sustaining his spirit in the dark hours by reading Shakespeare to his Cabinet?

Now, nineteen centuries after, the human race is at its Calvary, and what is it that sustains us as the world passes slowly through the shadows? It is the thought of that other Calvary and of all that has come of it, the assurance that He did not die, that nothing good can perish, and the comfort of the words that never yet have failed us, *Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world.*

Arthur Mee

CHILDREN'S  
NEWSPAPER

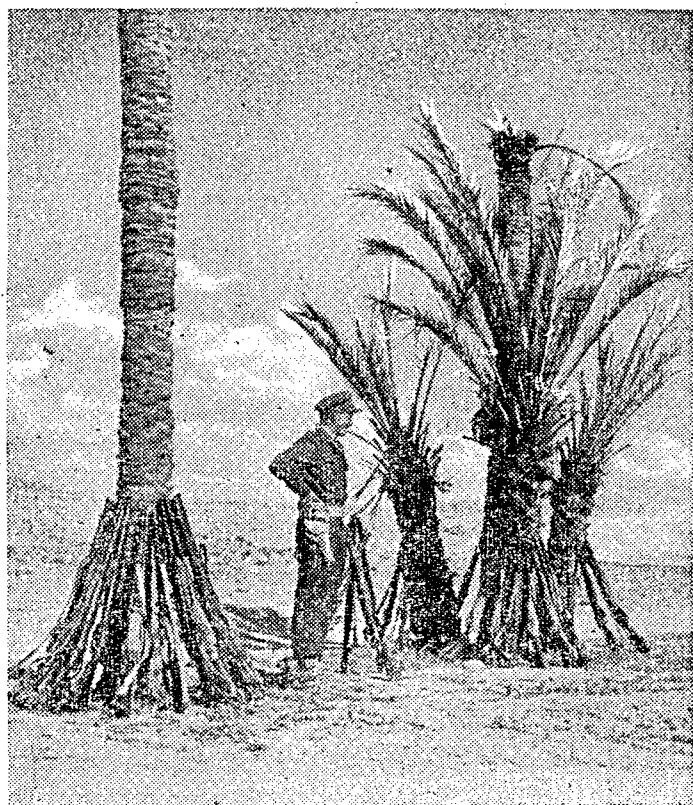
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Inland 1d  
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No 1257

EDITED BY ARTHUR MEE

## On Guard For the Ironsides



The Eighth Army, under our Cromwellian General Montgomery, has received two striking tributes, the War Minister describing it as the finest Army in British history, and the Bishop of Rochester declaring that it is the most religious body of Englishmen today. Here a sentry stands guarding the rifles of the Eighth Army Ironsides while they are on Church parade.

## 10,000 Years in Nature's Cold Storage

A FRIEND of the C.N. has just been over the Smithsonian Institution in Washington and feasted her eyes on a piece of steak ten thousand years old.

It is part of a mammoth which roamed over Europe and Asia and met its doom in Siberia, sinking helplessly into a soft icy marsh. There its body, frozen hard, remained until it was dug up in a state of perfect preservation, by scientists, and sections of it were taken to the museum. A piece of it is now in a bottle, showing the dried fat and meat. A piece of the skin, taken from the hollow of the right knee, shows the thick inner coat of

the mammoth's short woolly hair. Forty years ago a party of Russian scientists in Siberia came upon one of these giant animals in such an excellent state of preservation, complete with hide, hair, and flesh, that they cut off a juicy steak and made a meal off the meat that was several thousand years old. They vowed it tasted delicious, and were none the worse off for eating it.

Sir Hubert Wilkins tells how, on one of his Polar voyages, he and his party dined on the flesh of a whale that had been dead for three years. Nature's refrigerator had kept it fresh.

## COUNTING THE BEES

It may be wondered why it is important to count how many bees enter and leave a hive, but the matter is of great interest to those who are studying the question of crop pollination.

An interesting method has been worked out at the Rothamsted Experimental Station, Harpenden, where it has been found possible to make an electrical counting device recording on a paper strip the passages of the bees in and outwards. Twelve to

fifteen "gates" are needed in order not unduly to impede the busy traffic of the bees. As the bees pass through the slender gates the doors actuate an electric relay, which operates a mechanical inker that in turn makes its mark on a paper band. Any entrance of a bee marks a cross on the moving paper band; every exit marks a tiny circle. From these records it is possible to check the activities of every bee in the hive.



## INDIA'S GREAT ARMY

THE news that India had sent more fighting men overseas than any other Dominion came as a surprise when stated in Parliament the other day. An even more striking fact is that they belong to the biggest volunteer army in any country in the world.

The Indian Army today numbers 1,500,000 and volunteers are still joining up at a rate of 60,000 a month; the figure being 70,000 during the critical time in that country last year. The Indian Air Force is another volunteer body and its tenth birthday coincided with the 25th birthday of the R.A.F. The work of this Force in Burma was praised highly by General Wavell last year, and it is developing as fast as equipment can be provided.

When the war broke out the native Indian Army numbered 157,000 regulars, two units of which were linked with one unit of British regulars to form a brigade. In addition there were the Auxiliary Force of 24,000, the Territorial Force of 19,000, the Indian Army Reserve of 35,000, and the Indian State Forces of 40,000. There were thus over 300,000 volunteers capable of mobilisation, the Rajahs at once agreeing to their troops joining in the fight for freedom. In

June three years ago 100,000 new recruits were called for, and by the autumn of last year the total had risen to a million.

Now, in considering the relation of this splendid army to the political position in India it is not true to maintain that the fighting men are recruited from limited sections of the vast population. They are by no means confined to the martial classes of the north and to the Indian States. Bombay, Madras, and Central India both in the past and today contribute units which have military records as impressive as any. So the Indian Army may be looked upon as an expression of the national purpose as important as any political organisation.

The purpose for which these representatives of modern India volunteer is to drive the enslaving races from their shores and to help their fellow members in the Empire to hold fast to that freedom which is the pride of all under the Flag.

## This Kind World

DEAR EDITOR, I thought you might like this story for the C.N. I was waiting for the bus at Chatham and wanted an evening paper but found I had only silver, which the man couldn't change. I was therefore resigning myself to do without when an entire stranger, who was also buying a paper, realised the situation and said "That's all right" and was gone before I could thank him. I felt it to be the greatest kindness that had happened to me for a long time.

\*And did you see the story of the twenty naval officers captured in the raid on St Nazaire? They had lost their watches, and wrote to a Swiss firm asking for twenty, promising to pay for them at the

end of the war. A parcel of watches duly arrived, twenty, with a bill for £200. This confirms my experience as a chaplain of the British Legion at Berne in the last war, where English and Americans found asylum in Switzerland often with nothing but their cheque books, but found that their cheques were readily taken by the warm-hearted and generous Swiss in their hotels.

H. L., Upchurch, Kent  
Note. The Editor is glad to add to this story a remembrance of peace days, when an unknown German in a train in Switzerland lent him 100 francs to pay an excess fare demanded by an inspector who could not negotiate English currency.

## THE KACHINS ARE WITH US

FOR all their occasional outbursts of savagery, the Burmese people as a whole are not warlike.

Several experiments in raising Burmese regiments for the Indian Army, and later for the defence of Burma as an independent administration, proved quite unsuccessful. There was no means of instilling discipline into this lazy and easy-going people, and in the end the loss of equipment through carelessness and theft proved too much for the patient British officers who did their best in a hopeless job.

So Burma was defenceless when the Japs came, so far as the plains were concerned. In the hills it was different; and it is from the Burmese uplands that we now hear how at least part of the Jap invading force has met its match. Kachin tribesmen in the mountain jungles of north-west Burma have disposed of 600 Japs in guerilla warfare without losing a single man of their own. They fight as the Japs fight in the jungle, only more cleverly, and as they have always been a proud and fiercely independent race the

Japs cannot cajole or suppress them.

Independent though they are, the people of this small hill-tribe have never resisted British rule, partly because they have been left pretty well alone in the things which matter to them most. They have always got on well with British magistrates, whose sense of justice and keen sympathy have impressed them deeply. So, even though they see the British administration driven temporarily from Burma, they remain loyal, and are waging a fight on our behalf as well as their own which will be very important later on.

## THINGS SEEN

A baboon walking in church during service at Grahamstown in South Africa.

Rhododendrons blooming at the foot of Snowdon in the first days of April.

A stinging nettle flourishing in the fork of an apple tree at Stocklinch in Somerset.

Three parts of a haystack blown away by the wind at Farningham in Kent.

## The School of Handy Hands

NEW YORK has a special school where scholars from five to seventy come to teach their hands to be useful.

Edward Hall, a retired business man, conceived the idea of a school where all kinds of arts and crafts could be taught to people who had never had the chance of teaching their hands to be handy.

Each student's training is adjusted to his own talents, experience, background, and future plans—supervised by a staff of 20 teachers who are experts in one or more of the crafts: loom weaving, tapestry weaving, leathercraft, jewellery, metals, silk-screen printing, woodcarving, bookbinding, block printing, marionettes, ceramics, celluloid, etching, sculpture, lace making, glove making, and camp crafts.

One New Jersey grandmother has fulfilled a long ambition to learn metal-work. When she returned home with the objects she had fashioned the principal of a private school for girls in the town was so impressed that she added a handicraft course to the curriculum and engaged the grandmother as instructor.

### A Different Holiday

A novelist, who is learning to weave as a pastime, works beside a professional student who will probably one day head a weaving centre. A poet learns to model with plastic marble. A Massachusetts insurance man is there with his wife and two children, spending a different kind of holiday, which they expect will give them pleasure all the year.

A blind woman who once sold newspapers on a New York street corner learned to weave and now teaches others who, like herself, must "see" chiefly through her fingertips.

The headmaster of a preparatory school for Princeton and Yale students finds new ideas for his manual training classes. A violinist from a film theatre in the neighbourhood comes over to take woodcarving lessons.

A young Chinese mother from Peiping, who spent several months at the school, was impressed by the American custom among children of making playmates of their dolls. In China dolls are admired as ornaments, but never touched. She planned, on returning home, to start a modern doll-playing movement in her own country, so that little Chinese girls might also know this added joy of life.

## Birds Use the Convoy Route

A Kittiwake Gull has made the long trip from Murmansk to a port in Newfoundland.

The Kittiwake, a marine bird, had been marked with a numbered band by a Russian scientist working in the Central Bureau for Bird Ringing in Moscow. A little more than a year later this marked bird was recovered at Bonavista Harbour.

Two other cases of Kittiwakes making the Murmansk-to-Newfoundland crossing are on record. One was recovered three months after it had been marked and liberated. Apparently this route is as well established for these birds as it is for convoys!

## LITTLE NEWS REELS

THE Government have made the sums payable as compensation for war injuries the same for women as for men, and have abolished the distinction between the rates for gainfully and non-gainfully occupied persons.

Canada's aircraft industry now employs 55,000 men and women who make 400 planes a month.

Under the will of Mrs R. F. A. Whitney, of Cambridge, the National Trust has acquired Bridestones Moor, an area of 165 acres near Whitby.

FARMERS are being informed that cocoa and chocolate residues are suitable feeding stuffs for cows provided that the ration allotted does not exceed 2 lbs per head per day.

Partly for fuel economy, but also as an experiment in unity, three Methodist Churches in a district of Sheffield are uniting for services.

We hear from Woodbridge, Suffolk, that Canon Wilkinson, who showed Oliver Cromwell's head to the Editor some years ago, has a Look-out Post at the top of a 72-foot tree from which he can see any fire started in his area; and our correspondent tells us that the Canon has also a device for seeing that a water supply for dogs is always available.

An area of 700 idle acres of bushland in the Thurrock district of Essex, which was given up as hopeless during the last war and ever since, has now been made fit for farming by adapting old and disused machinery for clearing the accumulated growth.

During the hearing of a case in a West London police court, when an alien was fined for having two wireless sets, it was stated

### Youth News Reel

THE Certificate of Gallantry has been awarded to 8-year-old Wolf Cub Tony Valentine, of Kenya, for his rescue of a 10-year-old girl, much bigger and heavier than himself, from a deep pool below a waterfall.

In writing to the Associations, asking for Scouts and Guides to help with fruit picking this season, the Ministry of Food states: "Scouts and Guides would be particularly useful in this task which calls for carefulness and responsibility."

A ten-dollar bill and five pounds of sweets were received by the 72nd Derby Troop from their pen friends the Scouts of Troop 3, Derby, Connecticut, the sweets arriving on the very day that the British Troop held its annual party!

The Sunday School Union has issued a card for the use of Christian Youth Clubs registering such things as attendances and

in evidence that the conversion of a powerful receiving set into a transmitting set can be done by an expert in 15 minutes.

The Spanish Parliamentary authorities have just discovered that for 100 years the members of Parliament have been taking the oath of allegiance on the Book of Psalms instead of the Bible.

Owing to the war the tramp is disappearing from the roads and casual wards; on the night of January 29 the number of tramps in casual wards was only 629, the lowest figure for a century.

LORD SOULSBURY, chairman of the Assistance Board at Liverpool, said his department was deeply impressed by the people's great sense of honesty in making claims.

So many eggs are being produced in Lincolnshire that the girls who grade and pack them are working overtime; more eggs have been produced than at any time in the past three years.

Professor John Green has passed on; he was 80 and for over 60 years his Punch and Judy show was one of the most famous entertainments at Blackpool.

A Centre for the International Women's Services Groups, which include 34 different nations, has been opened in Cambridge Square, London.

Sir Isaac Newton's library has been bought by the Pilgrim Trust.

Old barrage balloons are now used to protect tanks from seawater during their transit to Russia.

subscriptions; all clubs following the standard C.Y. programme will find the cards of great help.

Scouts of Wolverhampton maintain a regular messenger service at the Royal Hospital; and they carry out Civil Defence duties and assist the patients to the shelters on the sounding of an alert.

Wolf Cubs of the Upminster District have "adopted" HMS Agamemnon, and send a parcel of books and papers every week, Ship Halfpennies being collected toward the cost.

The Archbishop of Canterbury is to preside at the Diamond Jubilee Display of the Boys Brigade at the Royal Albert Hall on Saturday, May 8.

As a wartime measure the Boys Brigade is issuing a certificate in place of book prizes; attached to the certificate will be a five-shilling or half-crown Savings Stamp.

## The Farmers Look Forward

THE National Farmers' Union has thoroughly examined its own case and has published a valuable report on agriculture after the war.

They think the County War Agricultural Committees should remain in being and that substantial output should be aimed at in all branches. They claim that this could be so if prices were raised to a higher level than before the war. The Union thinks tillage should be raised from 7,000,000 acres of 1939 to 11,000,000 acres; to include 2,250,000 acres under wheat, 600,000 acres of potatoes, and 400,000 acres of sugar beet,

fruit and vegetables for human consumption covering 800,000 acres.

For the dairy herd 3,500,000 head should be the minimum, and 4,000,000 of other cattle. Of sheep we should maintain a minimum of 20,000,000, of pigs 3,750,000, and of poultry 60,000,000.

The farmers do not forget the workers who will increase in number. They call for good agricultural wages to compare with those paid in town industry, and they hope for the establishment of friendly relations with producers abroad. They do not object to reasonable forms of control.



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## The Caterpillar Goes Upstairs

IN the garden a caterpillar is merely the larva of a butterfly or a moth, and on the farm or the battlefield it is but the wheel of a tractor or a tank. But at Beech Hill House in Berkshire it is something far more important, and something delightful, a chain of toddlers and crawlers on the way upstairs to Shut-Eye Town.

Beech Hill House is a mansion of mellowed brick which has become a Red Cross Residential Nursery, sheltering children from two to five years old whose parents are on war work, or children who have been bereaved

by the war. Here, in an atmosphere as of the leisured 18th century, little children of our desperate 20th century are cared for; and twice a day the caterpillar winds its way up the big staircase—at half-past twelve to siesta, and at five o'clock to Slumberland. Even going to bed is fun if you can go there in Eugene Field's Shut-Eye Train, as they do at Beech Hill Nursery:

Ting-a-ling! the bell it goeth;  
Toot-toot! the whistle bloweth;  
And we hear the warning call:  
All aboard for Shut-Eye Town.

## THE SKY MONSTER

Henry Kaiser, shipbuilder and aircraft maker, on the grand scale, is looking to the day when giant aircraft will shorten the war by wholesale bombing of Tokyo, and then play a giant's part in the transport system of the Brave New World.

The giant plane he plans will be a flying wing (without body or tail), able to carry 45 tons for thousands of miles, and at least 17,000 miles with no load other than fuel. It will be a four-engined monster and will weigh over 87 tons when fully loaded. "It can be built now," says the indomitable Henry Kaiser, "and I intend to build it now."

## THE PARISH MEETING

The Parish Meeting and the Parish Council should be the foundation of all good local government in rural districts. Unfortunately, the electors of our villages take little or no interest in local affairs. Some time ago a Kent District Council took over the powers of one Parish Council, and now, from the other side of the county, comes a report that the annual Parish Meeting at Chilham was attended only by members of the Council and officials, not one villager being sufficiently interested to attend.

## GREENLAND'S DUST STORMS

When the winds blow fierce and keen in Greenland they blow the mud that has come down in turbid floods from the ice-field in the hot summer towards the coasts in dust storms and sand storms. These, unlike the similar dust storms of Libya, settle down in the course of years and make good growing soil.

The same thing, according to an American geologist now writing, happened in America, and possibly in Asia, where this dust of the Ice Age made the good earth on which the grassland and the cornfields grow today. The dust storms of yesteryear which made a dust bowl of the Western States, because the land had grown impoverished may, if their lesson is learned aright, make good land in the future.

## Garden at Wadi Halfa

At Wadi Halfa in the Sudan can be seen a small white house with this inscription:

*This house was used as a resting place by Gordon Pasha and Kitchener Pasha.*

Natives who look after the house have filled the garden with simple British flowers as a tribute to the memory of these great soldiers.

## STORY FROM BELGIUM

The Belgian who got up from his table in a Brussels café did not seem to mind who heard him when he said he was hurrying home to listen to the B B C news.

He was not even much surprised when he found the Secret Police waiting on his doorstep.

Do you listen to the shortwave? they demanded.

Every day, he replied.

Where is your wireless?

Oh, I haven't got one. I just listen to the German officer's set next door! I can hear clearly as the walls are so thin!

## What Are Photographers Doing?

EVERYONE with a camera knows how difficult it is now to get a roll of film or paper to print from negatives, and all materials are likely to get scarcer still for some time.

But amateur photographers are keeping up their enthusiasm in a number of ways. New pictures are being made from old negatives on sensitive paper prepared at home by all kinds of methods revived from years ago. It is even possible to buy ready-prepared sensitive "emulsion" with which plates or films can be coated at home. The quality

may not be very good, but it nevertheless enables the lover of photography to do something.

There is no question of any scarcity of silver (the metal on which all modern photography depends), but the demands of the R A F for films and all kinds of photographic materials, and the continually growing use of photography in engineering, makes it almost impossible to spare anything for the amateur.

An immense amount of X-ray photography is done today in the testing of machinery parts, and quite new photographic methods are being introduced into aeroplane building. Photography has, in fact, developed surprisingly, and proved one of the most important and valuable of all modern sciences in the present war.

## THE NATION'S ACCOUNTS

The Financial Year ended on March 31, and our expenditure amounted to £5,637,367,000.

The revenue from taxes amounted to £2,819,856,000, so that we raised only about half the money needed to pay our bills.

The yield of income tax exceeded expectation by nearly £94,000,000, the sum raised being roundly a thousand million pounds.

The Government paid its way by borrowing from our people, who are still urged to go on contributing by buying Savings Certificates and Defence Bonds, and by putting money into the Post Office Bank.

## CURIOUS

Everyone knows Donald McCullough, question-master of the Brains Trust. We have all heard his voice many times, and perhaps we can understand how the old Yorkshire woman felt when she said to Mr McCullough the other day:

"Eh, well, it does seem curious hearing your voice coming out of your face instead of a loud-speaker!"

## BOYS AND THE SEA

Our boys, having heard of the U-boat menace to our shipping, are anxious to go to sea. There is a rush of boys at every port; but that is not the way to go about it. Mr Bevin points out to them:

You won't succeed unless you go about it the right way. No boys are engaged for merchant ships except through Merchant Navy Reserve Pools, and you won't be engaged unless you have had some employment at sea or have had training on shore or in a training ship.

Boys who are in earnest in the matter are advised to apply for advice to the juvenile departments of the Labour Exchanges.

## A Prime Minister Speaks Out

Mr. Curtin, Prime Minister of Australia, has been telling a big audience at a Labour Rally that the Government could not and would not provide enough beer and tobacco for all demands.

"You can't tell me and you can't tell yourself honestly that there is any recreation that will contribute to your fitness for war by getting drunk and making a Roman feast out of a national tragedy," he said, adding, "that is not total war."



## Young Poland in Persia

Many Polish children, refugees from their suffering homeland, are now living in Persia, where their education is being continued. This class at a school in Teheran is having an English lesson.

## Runways While You Wait

A Flying Fortress having been forced down in a small field, the engineers of the American Army performed one of the marvellous feats of the war to get it out. If the airmen can put it there we can get it out, said the engineers.

While the Fortress was being repaired, twenty men cleared a way for it by felling great trees, removing 120 feet of hedges and walls, levelling and reinforcing the ground, and making a 2250 feet runway, along which the Fortress made a good start on the flight back to its base.

## FITTING HIMSELF IN How to Deal With Wasters

Robert Christian Duncan, an Australian, was one of the first to enter Bardia in 1940, and had the misfortune to lose a leg, so that he was invalided out of the Army.

But he is now a sergeant air-gunner with the R A A F, and he hopes soon to be on operational flying. "You see," he explains, "when I'm in a plane I just take off my wooden leg; it helps me to fit in better."

## Everywhere Else Please Copy

Not a single case of drunkenness has been reported in the Romney Marsh district of Kent for twenty years.

## WHEN THE RENAULT SAVED EUROPE

THE Nazis have converted an old friend of England into an enemy at which we are compelled to strike.

When we bomb the Renault works near Paris we do so to prevent the establishment from continuing its new and hateful task of furnishing Hitler with transport and other weapons to be used against us. This is indeed a sad change, for the Renault is a name famous in our change-over from horse transport to motors.

It was the Renault firm that

supplied the little fleets of red taxicabs that first appeared in the streets of London. Everybody knew the red Renault, and thousands of people in England had their first experience of travel by motor-car in one of these.

When the Great War came the Renault served us in another way. When the Germans were advancing on Paris, our own troops, with the French, were halted on their retreat, and the Battle of the Marne began. But at a critical moment the Ger-

mans launched a deadly attack on the Sixth French Army, an attack which if successful might have altered the entire outcome of the battle and brought defeat for the common cause.

But the French General Gallieni recognised the peril in time and, hastily massing a reserve army, he bundled them all into Renault taxis and struck a blow so stunning and so unexpected that the situation was saved, the Battle of the Marne was won, and the war lost to Germany.



April 24, 1943

The Chit

## EDITOR'S TABLE

### The First Good Friday. IN JERUSALEM

PILATE: Whether of the twain will ye that I release unto you?

The Mob: Barabbas.

Pilate: What shall I do then with Jesus?

Mob: Let him be crucified.

Pilate: Why, what evil hath he done?

Mob: Let him be crucified.

### ON CALVARY

FIRST Thief on the Cross: If thou be Christ, save thyself and us.

Second Thief: Dost thou not fear God, seeing thou art in the same condemnation? And we indeed justly, for we receive due reward of our deeds; but this man hath done nothing amiss. Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom.

Jesus: Verily I say unto thee, this day shalt thou be with me in Paradise.

### FEEDING OURSELVES

THE increase of food production from our own soil has been so remarkable that we are now producing two out of three meals.

Before the war we were importing two out of every three meals. In 1939 when the war began no one imagined that such progress could be made. The farmers and their workers have indeed earned the gratitude of the nation.

It looks as though we shall have to revise very seriously the accepted opinion that we cannot feed ourselves. Perhaps it is that we have never tried, because so many of our politicians told us it could not be done. Let us press on, remembering that still we have inadequate agricultural machinery, while the majority of our farms have no electricity. Of course we can feed ourselves.

### JUST AN IDEA

No man can be made free by law; we must all free ourselves.

## Under the Editor's Table

A DENTIST says he has no time to take his dog out. Takes teeth out instead.

AN auctioneer says the war has deprived him of much work. But he still has lots.

SOME people think it foolish to keep picture postcards. Others have different views.

A WOMAN customer gave her grocer a piece of her mind. He thought it was a bit off.

Peter Puck  
Wants to Know



If a dog has a bone to pick with his rations

## ST GEORGE'S DAY

ST GEORGE'S DAY falls well this year, for it is on Good Friday, the day of sacrifice.

There is some obscurity about St George's life, as of the lives of many of these early days. Many legends have sprung up around them, often depicting some truth as to their character.

One of the best stories told of St George is that while he was a young officer in the Army of Diocletian he came to the notice of the emperor and was marked for a brilliant future.

However, Christianity had attracted his attention and much of his time was spent in secretly following the new sect.

ONE day in the year 303 Diocletian issued an edict ordering the most ruthless rooting-out of all Christians in order that the Emperor might be assured of ruling without a rival. George announced at a royal feast that he belonged to this sect, creating great consternation. In spite of his ruthlessness, Diocletian was aware of the fine character of the man, and allowed him to leave the palace unmolested. George went to the city, where a crowd had gathered about the Temple door reading the edict. He tore it down and was the first to be slain under this decree.

### A Hundred Years Ago

It is just a hundred years since the first heavier-than-air flying machine was designed by an Englishman, William Henson, who proposed to set up an Aerial Transit Company to convey passengers and troops to China and India in a few days!

In an article on the matter in The Times of that day Mr John Chapman of Loughborough, who had made a number of experiments in aerodynamics, hoped and believed that flight through space would lead "in a spirit of justice and goodwill to all" to that intercourse between

For centuries afterwards he was revered in the East as a heroic martyr. When the Crusaders, as they went on their way to the Holy Wars, heard of his deeds they were so enthralled that they began to use his name as their battle-cry. This is how he came to be England's Patron Saint.

At the Council of Oxford in 1222 it was ordered that the feast of St George should be kept. In 1545 it was given a place in the Prayer Book, and a special collect, epistle, and gospel were prepared, though less than ten years later this was withdrawn as Romish.

Under the inspiring emblem of St George the Pilgrim Fathers sailed to America. Centuries have passed since then, but many more since the last heroic deed of St George. In 303 the followers of Christianity were called to prove their faith; in 1943 men still wage the age-old war.

ST GEORGE'S DAY is no longer kept as a special festival, neither do we give to it the high place other countries give their patron saint. But this year St George's Day will be a time of remembrance, for we shall be thinking not of the cross assigned to our patron saint but of the Cross of Calvary.

men and nations which is the life-blood of human happiness.

Of course Henson could only adopt the steam engine as a source of power, and nothing came of it. It is odd that Tennyson was then writing:

*Heard the heavens fill with shouting, and there rained a ghastly dew  
From the Nations' airy navies  
grappling in the central blue.*

### The Child and Its Cottage

THE Prime Minister in his last broadcast told the nation, as the C.N. has often done, that in 30 years, unless present trends alter, the smaller working and fighting population will have to support and protect nearly twice as many old people: in 50 years the position will be worse still.

Mr Churchill added: "If the country is to keep its high place in the leadership of the world and to survive as a Great Power, that can hold its own against external pressures, our people must be encouraged by every means to have larger families."

We earnestly hope the Ministry of Health will take notice of these words, for it is an unfortunate fact that the new Government cottages for agricultural labourers will not hold more than three children.

## The World's Youngest King



King Faisal the Second of Iraq, who will be eight next month, with a British officer watching a tank display in the desert near Bagdad

## THE HARBOUR BAR

CAPTAIN LORD ALASTAIR GRAHAM,

R.N., addressing recently a meeting of the Y.W.C.A., drew attention to the increase in drinking among women and girls, due in part to the camp-life which so many of them are leading at the present time, sharing work and recreation alike with the men in the Forces.

His warning was a timely one, for the habit of taking drinks throughout the day, once formed, is hard to break, and the results may be deplorable.

Lord Alastair did much to help the cause of temperance in his own county town by establishing in its very centre an exceedingly attractive milk-bar, which was

immensely popular in the day when milk was unrationed and accessible to all. The food served with it was of the highest quality and the beauty and cleanliness of the small building, combined with willing and efficient service made it a delightful place for light meal, all the more so as the town was an inland harbour, with a continual stream of visits from trading vessels up and down its river night and day.

It is greatly to be hoped that when the war is ended and normal life comes into its own again, similar places will be found in every town and village in the United Kingdom, and in every harbour along its coasts.

## ARTHUR MEE'S WONDERFUL YEAR

We take this from a long review of the Editor's new war book, *Wonderful Year*, published at 6s by Hodder and Stoughton.

If there were nothing else in this book but the story of the Cockatoo it would be a heartening six shillings' worth.

But these chapters contain a great deal more to justify investment in them. The author's weekly articles since the war began have been an unfailing inspiration to young and old readers. They make a record of conflict, and hope written while

events are hot upon us, imbued with an idealism which is fine practical expression in national and world affairs.

It is Mr Mee's firm faith in the State is what we make and that our power in the world is in the spirit with which we conduct our lives. It is a faith that can never be stunted, often, nor too vigorously, and could wish nothing better for the author than that he should have many years in which to serve us all with his broken optimism. Caval



## The Young Farmers of Russia

This is sent to us by a Soviet Youth Council at Moscow.

A black folder with the inscription "A State Deed," enclosed in a gold frame, hangs in a Collective Farm Office in Russia. The deed reads: "6039 hectares (15,022 acres) of land are attached to the village of Andreyevka as its permanent possession—that is, for ever."

The Soviet State has granted to the collective farms land, machinery, and agricultural implements. It has done all in its power to make them well-to-do, and now the people are paying by good service for all the care taken by the State on their behalf.

### Vigorous Girls

The majority of the menfolk of Andreyevka's collective farm are at the Front, so that now the chief burden of work lies on the shoulders of the women and youngsters, mainly girls. But youth doesn't lag behind; on the contrary, judging by this year's statistics, they are managing even better. The farm owns plenty of land, arable land alone being no less than 37 acres for every worker. Since there were fewer people left on the farm, also fewer tractors and lorries. Antrop Pykin (chairman of the farm) was rather doubtful whether the farm would cope with its sowing campaign, but the girls came to him and said, "Sow as much as you think proper. We are twice as well and strong as before." And the collective farm finished its spring sowing campaign five days ahead of its neighbours, while increasing the sown area by 250 acres.

The following summer was not so good, but not a single day did the young folk stay indoors. On windy and rainy days alike they were in the fields. The girls

spent their weekends binding sheaves and carrying grain, while the boys were ploughing, mowing the grass, and threshing grain. Look at Kostya Shopovalov, for instance. He's only 14, but few grown-ups could handle a mower as well as he. And now, the harvest over, a steamboat conveyed a string of barges to the wharf, and a golden shower of wheat was poured into them, a golden shower which had begun on the threshing floor, then passed through the drying machine. From there it had been carried in 16 carts to the bank of the river, and finally found its resting place in the holds of the barges. Far away in the rear in the little collective farm a victory was won which will find its echo there where their fathers and brothers are fighting against the hateful enemy.

The preliminary figures are available. They have delivered to the State 2258 cwt of wheat, 1460 cwt of oats, 315 tons of potatoes, 2056 gallons of milk, and 4600 eggs. But that is not all. Soya beans, tobacco, hay, and meat are to follow.

### Generous Subscriptions

Andreyevka's young folk have, also subscribed 30,000 roubles to State loans, and nearly the same amount for building tanks, all this though there are only 52 families in the village.

Collective farmers live comfortably, well provided with everything. In grain alone they each received 17 lbs every working day, exclusive of potatoes, vegetables, and honey. In this way do they, the young people of the village of Andreyevka, work in the Far East. In this way they help the Red Army to speed up the defeat of the common enemy of mankind.

## Other People's Pastimes

AMERICAN soldiers assembled in England having temporarily adopted Association football, it is predicted that, taking the game home with them, they will create a Soccer vogue there, and that we shall one day be meeting the U.S. at international Soccer, as we meet the Dominions at cricket.

But many Britons have taken a love of Association football to America already, and the game makes no more headway there than American baseball makes here.

Nations are slow to adopt pastimes from without. True, we took polo from Persia, and in return gave the world lawn

tennis; as Scotland gave it golf; but many games tend to remain purely national. A few years ago a craze for Diabolo expired as suddenly as it had arisen; and then Rogo (which, with a spring concealed in a sort of stilt, was to make us all leap like kangaroos) pursued it into oblivion, accompanied by Mahjong, the ancient Chinese game, played with elaborate and costly ivory pieces, which for a season set everyone talking and playing.

It is easy to establish new foods like the banana and the grapefruit, but it is quite another matter to induce one nation to accept a new pastime.

## The Proud Lad Who Was Ready

LAST September a Kent boy of the village of Chartham, near Canterbury, serving with the R.A.F., wrote a letter to his parents, sealed it, and asked that it should not be opened unless he was killed in action. He has since been killed, and his parents have been notified that he has been buried at Kiel. In his letter this lad, Sergeant-Air-Gunner J. A. Clough, wrote:

I have no regrets dying for my country. It is a grand country

and any man who can call himself an Englishman should be proud to die in the struggle for freedom. I am proud of my country and of those brave lads of the R.A.F. with whom I had the honour to fight side by side.

Sergeant Clough, who was twenty, was an old boy of the Simon Langton School, Canterbury.

Proud must his parents be to have laid so precious a sacrifice on the altar of freedom.

## CARRY ON

### IN FREEDOM'S FIGHT

THE matchless valour and the deathless pride  
Of those who have cast from them every claim  
To life itself, and for their country died,  
Have won a guerdon more than earthly fame.  
We who remain to struggle in these days  
Must make all pettishness to cease to be;  
Let us have done with all our selfish ways  
And follow Christ, the Man of Galilee.  
The cause of Freedom will go leaping up  
And evil come with swiftness clattering down  
If we will take the sacrificial cup  
And let not hardship cast away our crown:  
Beyond the dreams of men there comes the light  
To those who will dare all in Freedom's fight. T. Pittaway

### Be Not Proud

TAKE heed that ye do not your alms before men, to be seen of them; otherwise ye have no reward of your Father in heaven. Therefore when thou doest thine alms, do not sound a trumpet before thee, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward.

But when thou doest alms let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth, that thine alms may be in secret, and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly. Sermon on the Mount

### I WOULD

I WOULD that the loving were loved, and  
I would that the weary should sleep.  
And that man should hearken to man,  
And that he that soweth should reap. William Morris

### In Tune With the Infinite

IF we believe that there is a creative plan in this universe of burs, then the moral strength acquired through the consciousness of our being in tune with that plan and pursuing our true destiny must be incalculable. Let us try to be worthy of this higher destiny, for it is as important in the long run as anything in our war effort.

W. E. Elliott

### Let Us Be Kind

SEE that no brute of any kind, whether entrusted to thy care or coming in thy way, suffer through thy neglect or abuse. Let no views of profit, no compliance to custom, and no fear of ridicule of the world, ever tempt thee to the least act of cruelty or injustice to any creature whatsoever. Dr Primatt, 1776.

### A Word From William Penn

NEITHER despise nor oppose what thou dost not understand.

## A German to Germans

WHAT are your feelings, Germans? Am I not right—you feel shame and a boundless longing for innocence, a longing to be freed from the entanglement of unbearable guilt in which you find yourselves enmeshed, shame, burning shame when faced with the spirit of love of this festival?

Look around and see what you have done! In Greece two hundred people are dying every day from starvation; this is only one isolated example of the misery which cries to Heaven.

Look at the violation of mankind, the agonies of mind and body that were caused by your willingness to be led astray, your horrible subservience.

What is to become of Europe, what is to become of you yourselves in the course of the long and hard war which with a false gesture of honesty is now being forecast for you? If only despair were to begin to steal into your souls it would be a good thing, Germans, it would be the first turn for the better.

Despair is a good thing, it is better than vain boasts. Out of despair, if it is only deep enough, there comes spiritual uplift, new hope, the rebirth of light. But behold, the star for which mankind longs is forcing its way and shining through the blood-drenched darkness of these our days. It is the star of peace, of brotherly love, of justice.

Thomas Mann

## SHADOWS OF GLORY

THE glories of our blood and state  
Are shadows, not substantial things;  
There is no armour against fate;  
Death lays his icy hand on kings:

Sceptre and Crown  
Must tumble down,  
And in the dust be equal made  
With the poor crooked scythe and spade.

Some men with swords may reap the field,  
And plant fresh laurels where they kill;  
But their strong nerves at last must yield;

They tame but one another still:  
Early or late  
They stoop to fate,  
And must give up their murmuring breath  
When they, pale captives, creep to death.

The garlands wither on your brow;  
Then boast no more your mighty deeds;  
Upon Death's purple altar now  
See where the victor-victim bleeds;  
Your heads must come  
To the cold tomb;  
Only the actions of the just  
Smell sweet, and blossom in their dust. James Shirley

### In War and Peace

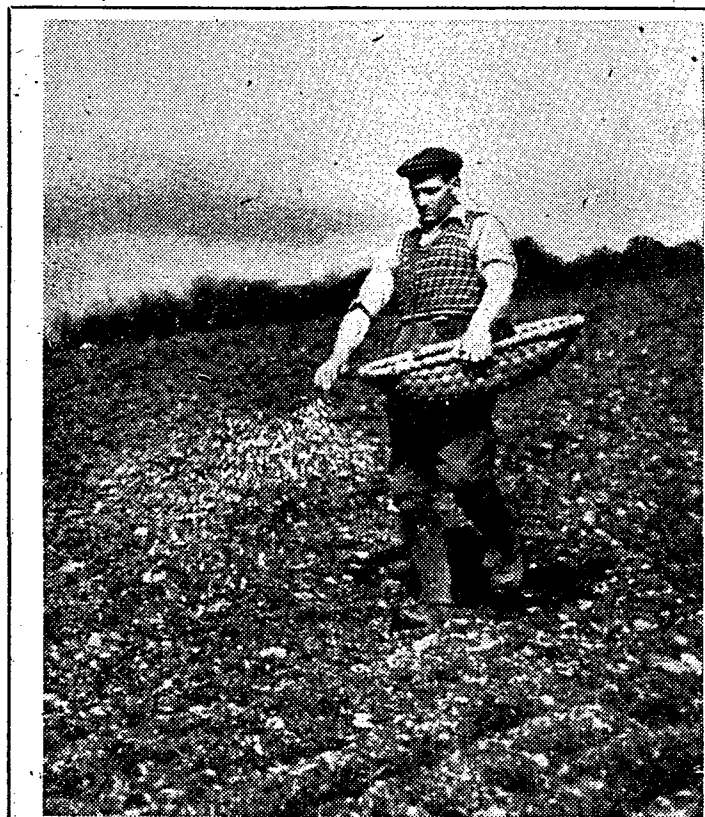
A MAN who is good enough to shed his blood for the country is good enough to be given a square deal afterwards. More than that no man is entitled to, and less than that no man shall have.

Theodore Roosevelt, 1903

### THE MILLS OF GOD

THOUGH the mills of God grind slowly  
Yet they grind exceeding small;  
Yet they grind with patience he stands waiting,  
With exactness grinds he all.

Translated by Longfellow



THIS ENGLAND

Sowing oats at Underbarrow near Kendal in Westmorland



## SIXTY YEARS BY PLYMOUTH HOE

A CLERGYMAN whose parish is the sea and the docks, whose parishioners are lighthouse-keepers and seafarers, and whose congregation is often no more than two or three men, hopes to celebrate his diamond jubilee next month. The man with this wonderful record of service is the Revd H. J. Holderness, Chaplain of the Missions to Seamen, Plymouth.

Despite his 83 years he is busy and active. Every Wednesday morning, fair weather or foul, he puts out in a boat to take the Gospel to the lonely men bound for two months at a stretch in the Breakwater Lighthouse, nearly three miles from Plymouth Hoe.

In his clerical garb and sea-boots, and carrying a well-worn Bible, he is as familiar a figure locally as the lighthouses and lightships he has been visiting for nearly 60 years. He also takes with him books and magazines for the keepers, and letters from home.

After landing he has to walk half-a-mile over a wet, slippery, seaweed-covered path before he climbs the steps to the lighthouse door. Inside, in a tiny living-room above the sea, he holds a service with a congregation of only two, and stays to tea.

On other weekdays, aboard and ashore, he moves among seamen in the docks, preaching with a brave face and ministering to many kinds of human need. Then on Sunday he occupies a pulpit in Devon, Dorset, or even Wiltshire. Truly a remarkable weekly programme for one so old in years.

For a quarter of a century he defied storm and current to visit his three parishioners in the Eddystone Lighthouse, 14 miles out in the Channel, sometimes being accompanied by the wives and children of the keepers.

Talking with a C N correspon-

dent Mr Holderness told of how on one occasion Lady Douglass, widow of the builder of the lighthouse, begged him to take her with him. She was over 80, and the desire of her life was to visit the great edifice which was a triumph of the engineering skill and ability of her husband, Sir J. Douglass.

"I am afraid it is impossible for you to land," he told her when they reached that towering sentinel of the sea, for to get from the boat to the steps needs considerable agility, and he feared the effort was beyond her. She looked crestfallen and sad. So near and yet so far! "Let me just touch the stones of the lighthouse," she implored, "so that I can say I have done so."

The boat was backed and, much to her joy, Lady Douglass put out her hand and touched her husband's famous building, which has been the means of saving many gallant seamen from being wrecked on the treacherous reef on which it stands.

Mr Holderness is full of admiration for our merchant seamen among whom he ministers. "Sometimes they have had four or five ships sunk under them," he remarked, "but nothing will keep them home. They go back to the sea again and again."

The C N sends its greetings to Mr Holderness and hopes that he will be able to carry on his inspiring work for a long time to come.

## HULLO, BOYS

BY THE MINISTER  
OF AGRICULTURE

THIS is not the first time that I have asked the senior boys and girls from public and secondary schools for their help on the land. Last year many thousands of you worked from school in term-time. In the holidays over 30,000 of you were in harvest camps, and thousands of others helped from their homes. I know from my own experience, and from what farmers and agricultural committees all over the country have told me, that you did splendid work. I have already expressed the Government's appreciation of the valuable help that was given, but I should like to take this further opportunity of thanking those who served, not only on behalf of the Government, but in the name of the farmers and of the people.

### Our Great Harvest

Every year since the war began our farmers have steadily increased the acreage of crops so as to maintain our food supplies and release ships to carry the weapons of war. They and their regular workers, with relatively few extra hands, have accomplished Herculean tasks in cultivating millions of additional acres and in growing millions of extra tons of food. This year the harvest, we trust, will be the greatest this country has ever known, and the farmers will need every available boy and girl to help in their gathering.

Last year thousands of soldiers—British and American—were able to help. For obvious reasons we must not count on their assistance next summer and autumn. The harvesting of our food will therefore depend more than ever before on the efforts of the whole community; it will be the duty of everyone to give as much time as possible to this great task.

We shall need this year at least 50,000 boys and girls at harvest camps and a large increase in the numbers working in term-time. I hope, therefore, that every one of you will regard it as your duty to take part to the fullest possible extent in the agricultural activities that your school will be organising this year. This may mean surrendering some of your leisure and recreation time; and engaging in what in many instances will prove to be long, hard, and wearisome tasks, but the service you give will be a direct contribution to the winning of the war.

### Gotadou Sees it Through

Gotadou is a Papuan girl, a member of the Kerawa tribe, and is a very proud girl today, for the Bible Society has given her a specially-bound copy of the Scriptures which she helped to translate into her native tongue.

Her people were cannibals and head-hunters when missionaries first came to them, but their children are Christians, and three of them shared in this work of translation—Gotadou, her husband Makoni, and a man named Konae. All three worked well, but Gotadou proved herself the ablest, and it is largely due to her that the Word now lives in the language of her people.

## A JUNGLE TALE

From New Britain to  
New Guinea

AN Australian soldier and three American airmen have reached New Guinea after astounding adventures on the island of New Britain. The Americans are survivors of the six members of the crew of a Marauder who were rescued by natives after their plane had been forced down into the sea following a raid on the Japanese at Rabaul.

These six airmen, all injured, lived for a while in native coastal villages, but they were stricken with malaria and two of them set out for medical aid. The gallant two fell into Japanese hands, however, and their four comrades moved up to a village in the mountains. Here one of them succumbed to his wounds and it was left to the last three Americans to struggle on somehow, living in the jungle like natives.

They worked with the natives, they hunted with them for wallaby and cassowary, they had their meals with them. Their fare included strange titbits like lizards and grasshoppers; their toothpaste was the fibre of betelnut palm; their cigarettes were native tobacco wrapped in banana leaf; their only news was scraps of Japanese propaganda which included sensational items like the capture of Australia and the invasion of the United States!

So the months went by with these three hardy airmen making the best of a bad job and playing parts more fantastic than any ever devised for a Hollywood scenario. Then, with the dawn of 1943, came a message that filled them with new hopes. It was a scrap of paper from an Australian soldier who had been a

planter in New Britain, and it bore these words: "To the three American airmen. I hear you are with natives. If you care to join me I can arrange it. I have plenty of native food and a small supply of medicine. As soon as the north-west season is over I plan to reach Port Moresby by canoe. You can come with me if you wish. If you prefer to stay I can arrange that the natives will care for you. I have no authentic news since February 19, 1942. Cheerio. All the best of luck."

The Americans duly set out on a hazardous journey through Japanese-occupied country, found their Australian friend, and started helping him to build a second canoe. One day while they were at work they spotted a Liberator on reconnaissance and attracted its attention with a mirror. Alas for their hopes, the plane flew off, its pilot doubtless suspecting a trap. Hopes were raised again later, however, for the Liberator came back, and after the men had established their identity by signalling with white cloths on the ground, it came down to rescue them and fly back to New Guinea with its precious white cargo.

Never did a Liberator live up to its name more happily.

## The Charity of Yehudi Menuhin

A GENIUS underlines his genius if he devotes it to good works, and the great violinist, Yehudi Menuhin, to whom the world of music already owes so much, has placed the world at large still deeper in his debt by his great charity. In the last few weeks he has given a series of concerts which have raised £30,000 for noble causes, and some admirers have recently given to him a silver salver inscribed with an expression of their gratitude and appreciation.

Yehudi Menuhin is still a young man, for he was born in New York in 1916; but his precious fiddle speaks with the authority of vast experience and the mellowness of incomparable mastery. Young though he is,

Menuhin is an Old Master of his Art. This musical prodigy, who first played the violin when he was four, appeared as a soloist with the San Francisco Symphony Orchestra when he was seven, and made his debut in New York when he was nine, has no fresh worlds to conquer.

But this troubled world, in which he has triumphed so completely, itself has much to conquer and it is crying out for help. Yehudi Menuhin has responded in the best way he can, using his magic to bring balm to the weary and succour to the needy. Great Art recognises no narrow racial boundaries; neither does a Great Heart. And it is a noble prospect for mankind when Art and Charity walk hand in hand.

## EIGHT PIECES MAKE A TUG

A NEW type of tugboat now being launched from our shipyards is a means of saving both steel and labour.

Like the ships that are being so rapidly and efficiently turned out in America, these tugs are built in sections by different contractors, each of whom makes a section 10 feet long, 17 broad, 13 deep, and weighing about six tons. Eight sections go to a tug, and each is brought by lorry to the shipyard, where the sections are welded together; and within a week the vessel can be

launched and towed to the place at which the boilers and engines are installed.

The new tugs are proving as strong as those riveted together and built as one job at a shipyard, though they require 20 per cent less steel. The method of building these has many advantages, not the least being that it saves congestion at our coastal towns both in housing for workers and in shipyards. Many unskilled workers, too, can be employed on the construction of these valuable little ships.

## BEDTIME CORNER

### The Ant and the Grasshopper

A COMMUNITY of ants had been occupied all through the summer and autumn collecting food for the winter, and they had carefully stored it in the wonderful underground chambers of their home. Thus when the winter came they had plenty of food to eat.

One cold day a grasshopper, who was almost starved with cold and hunger, came to the ant-hill and begged that the ants would give him a little food to save his life.

One of them asked him how he had spent his time during the summer, and whether he had not saved up anything for the winter. He replied: "Alas! I spent all my time

in singing, playing, and dancing, and never once thought about the winter."

The ant answered: "Then we have nothing to give you; for people who play all the summer must expect to starve in the winter."

Lay by for a rainy day.

### Riddle

How many sides has a round plum pudding?

Two sides: the outside and the inside.

### PRAYER

BRING me safely through this night, O Lord, and help me to live bravely and worthily through another day. Help us all to stand for the hard right against the easy wrong, and to leave the end in Thy hands. Amen.

### EASTER EGGS FOR THE PIXIES





The Children's Newspaper, April 24, 1943

## Children, Beware of the Next Three Months

THE next three months, May, June, and July, are the most dangerous months for children on the roads. The Society for the Prevention of Accidents has just issued an exact record of all the accidents to children during these fatal months in 1941 and 1942, and we trust that a careful study of this Bulletin Number 15 will lead to a big reduction of the number this year.

More, much more, needs to be done by parents and teachers in impressing on children the danger of playing in streets through which traffic passes, for statistics prove that the great majority of accidents happen in the care-free hours of their lives. Of 130 from five to nine 32 were killed going to and from school, and only seven when on an errand, whereas 91 were killed when playing.

Altogether 342 children, (291 on foot and 51 on bicycles) perished in May, June, and July last year, 103 less than during these months in 1941. Thus the average rate was about four a day. Only on four days was there no fatal accident to a child, two of these being Sundays and the third Whit Monday, which may suggest more parental control.

The Society confesses that it cannot point to one definite cause of the wartime increase of accidents to children. This increase is certainly an appalling one, the last peace year having a total of 1069, while in the second twelve months of war the

total rose to 1494, and in the third year of war was 1309, a slight improvement which is, alas, not being maintained in spite of the restrictions in traffic. The figures for February this year included 93 fatalities to children, the highest for that month since 1932.

Our own conviction is that the view of a Select Committee of some years ago still holds—that drinking before driving (even moderate drinking) induces a careless confidence which is fatal at the wheel.

One paragraph in this Report deals with the parentage of the children, stating that only seven per cent of the mothers were in factories or on war work, over 88 per cent being engaged on household duties at home.

The Chief Constables of our police districts sent particulars of all accidents to children in the three months of 1942, so that the Society has had the best of material for the numerous tables in its little booklet, which can be obtained for 6d from the Society for the Prevention of Accidents, 52 Grosvenor Gardens, London, S W 1.

## 100 Million Insurance Policies

MILLIONS of small homes are interested in insurance. The industrial insurance companies (those which collect the premiums frequently, from door to door) employ an army of about 65,000 house-to-house collectors on full time, with thousands of others on part time. What they do is to earn commissions by selling insurance. They sell funeral money insurance, and a variety of small life insurance policies, including endowment policies.

The business is terribly expensive, as may be gathered from the fact that 65,000 people earn their living by merely collecting premiums; their employers, the Industrial Insurance Companies, draw a premium income of over £74,000,000 a year. The costs are so great that the administration takes £24,000,000, while £1,750,000 goes in dividends to shareholders.

Incredible as it may seem, there are over a hundred million industrial insurance policies now in force, two and more for every man, woman, and child.

Unfortunately, Mr Lloyd George did not include funeral

benefit in his National Insurance Act of 1911, and as he allowed the Insurance Companies to set up approved societies to work the Health Insurance business he thus provided new customers for the agents.

Under the Beveridge proposals the single stamp fixed to a card would cover funeral grants and make an enormous saving. The Government has promised to adopt this part of the plan at the earliest possible moment. Unfortunately, however, the Government has refused to interfere further with industrial insurance, so that the companies will be left in possession of the entire business apart from funeral grants. Sir George Robertson, the Insurance Commissioner, giving evidence in 1931, showed that over 200,000 children were improperly insured, and that the average number of new cases of over-insured was 50 a week. It seems a great pity that the Government, after all these years, has not the courage to put all industrial insurance in the hands of a Board charged with the conduct of a business so important to the poor.

## The Children's Hour

Here are the details of the BBC broadcasts for Wednesday, April 21 to Tuesday, April 27.

WEDNESDAY, 5.20 A Nonsense Story by W. Kersley Holmes, Handy Sandy, told by James Crampsey; followed by a Little Song and Piano Recital—Music of France, with Amy Fryers (soprano) and Wight Henderson (piano). 5.55 Prayers.

THURSDAY, 5.20 Good Wives, by Louisa M. Alcott, adapted by Catherine Buckle and produced by Nan Macdonald (Part 2).

FRIDAY, 5.20 Olive Shapley's Letter from America; followed by On a Far Green Hill—verse and

music for Good Friday, chosen by Geoffrey Dearmer.

SATURDAY, 5.20 Bran Tub—a programme of favourite items arranged by Lyn Joshua.

SUNDAY, 5.20 An Easter Story. 5.30 Religious Service.

MONDAY, 5.20 The Travelling Glow-Worm, by Dora Broome, and told by Wilfred; followed by Stuff and Nonsense—funfare on the air.

TUESDAY, 5.30 Concert by the BBC Scottish Orchestra, conductor Guy Warrack, presented by Francis George Scott. The programme will include Mother Goose Suite, Ravel, and The Nursery (Six Tunes for Children).

## SHOOTING RIGHTS

A BERKSHIRE major has recently been fined for shooting a neighbour's dog that invaded his garden, the Court dismissing the plea that the shooting was accidental because the gun was aimed at a rat. Had the rat been the neighbour's it could have been legally shot, for a rat is a wild animal, whereas a dog is a domestic animal and protected.

Generally speaking the owner of a dog is not liable for damages if his dog trespasses on the land of his neighbour, and the neighbour is not entitled to shoot the dog except in self-defence, or for the purpose of saving his property which is actually in peril when the shooting takes place. If a dog or a horse, not previously known to be vicious, bites a person, its owner is not liable for damages; but when a monkey bit a West Ham woman a few years ago the county court judge awarded her damages against its owner, pointing out that a monkey, like a lion or a tiger, is a wild animal, so is not entitled to what the law calls its first bite, as a dog is.

Poultry keepers have strong legal defences, too, though not at the cost of penalties so severe to their unfriendly rivals as formerly. Scottish 17th century legal records tell of the case of two men who, having put down poisoned grain for a couple of fowls belonging to neighbours, were banished for life.

If cattle or poultry are injured by a dog the owner is liable even though it has never attacked them before.

## THE STAY-AT-HOME

From a Correspondent

She was singing softly to herself in her kitchen when we called. We said we were glad she was so happy.

"Oh, well," said she, "I ought to be. I've had a letter from everybody this morning."

"All the family?" we asked.

"Yes, it took me an hour to read all the news."

Very bright she looked and very brave she was, this little woman with grey hair, who is staying at home while her husband is on war work, her daughter nursing in a hospital, one son is in a submarine, one on operational flying, and the youngster at a military camp.

## 60 YEARS IN THE MILLS

DEAR EDITOR, In the CN of March 27 reference was made to three workers in the Darley Abbey Mills in Derbyshire who have been there over 60 years. Being one of the workers referred to I thought you might be interested to have a few further details.

I began work in February 1883 as a half-timer, which means that half of each day was given to my education, and as my parents were anxious to obtain any aid that I could give them I felt in a very proud position when I took home my weekly wage, which averaged 1s 6d. The maximum wage for full-time workers was then 10s a week for women and 18s for men.

It is needless to say that great changes have taken place during recent years, and living conditions have greatly improved during the many years which I have spent at the one factory.

## CHINA GETTING TOGETHER The Wonderful Co-ops

FURTHER news about China's wonderful development of small industrial cooperative societies has been reaching us. The societies are known as C I C.

A unique type of welfare and cooperative effort is projected in the wounded soldiers' cooperatives. These are found in five of the seven regions of China, by far the largest number and most representative being Hsingkuo, Kiangsi, in the south-east. China sees the tremendous significance of these wounded men's co-ops, not only because they provide employment for a group of people who must otherwise remain idle and useless, but also because they definitely point to a way in which millions of Chinese veterans can be put into civilian life again after the war.

Another cooperative to become popular is in printing. An old printer and his seven apprentices had fled from Hsuechow, and were at the ragged end of their resources when the old man happened to spy one of the cooperative posters. In some confusion of mind he walked over to the director's office to discuss the new idea. When the director told him that he could have a loan of 2000 Chinese dollars to start work, again, he put his grizzled head down on the table and wept tears of joy.

Another refugee printer from Chengchow came into the C I C office about the same time, and

reported that he had men and knew where plenty of machines could be bought in Siam. Three days later the printer returned empty-handed.

"Why didn't you go to Siam to get the machines?" the director asked. "How could I? I have no money to travel."

The director gave him ten dollars for the short trip. Within a few days he received a letter reporting that machinery, lithographing stones, and paper were available, costing from two to three thousand dollars. The money was provided, and the printer got his equipment to the railway station platform.

At this inopportune moment, however, an air-raid alarm sounded. The printer sent his two helpers to a dugout, but himself refused to move away from his precious machinery. When the bombing squadron had left its mission of destruction the printer had a piece of shrapnel in his foot, but the presses were saved, and the cooperative printing plant was started.

This significant movement in China is not only helping China in her fight against Japan, but is preparing the way for the Better Days.

## The Factory Dentist

MOST of our war factories have well-equipped surgeries, where workers who fall ill can get first-aid treatment. Now they are to have visiting dentists.

It is recognised that grave waste of time is entailed by the loss of the half-day which workers must give up, often with loss of pay, to visit the dentist; but a worker cannot get on with his job if he has the toothache, and so arrangements are being made by the Government to recruit dentists for whole-time factory service.

The dental surgery would be attached to the existing medical department in the factories; but perhaps there will also be a new kind of "dentist-on-wheels," who

will go round from factory to factory to treat patients where he finds them.

This excellent idea would no doubt reduce the expense of treatment which the worker has to meet by losing his half-day's pay and having a dentist's bill as well. The Industrial Welfare Society (that admirable product of the last war to which King George gave so much time as Duke of York) has long advocated the new idea, which it says will do much to reduce absenteeism.

*Splendid  
Corrective!*

The scarcity of certain foods, resulting in a less varied diet, is very liable to cause irregularity. In such cases, Lixen is a splendid corrective. It does not purge or gripe. It forms no habit. Prepared from senna pods by a special process that removes all harshness, it helps the system back to regularity in a safe, healthy way. Lixen is equally suitable for young or old.

Lixen Effixir is the palatable liquid in bottles, 1/3s, 2/3s, 3/11.  
Lixen Lozenges, fruit flavoured, in bottles, 1/8.  
Purchase Tax Incl.

Made in England by Allen & Hamburys Ltd.

**LIXEN**  
THE GOOD-NATURED

*Laxative*



## SPITEFUL

THE returned traveller was telling of some of his experiences. "While I was in Chicago," he said, "I was nearly killed by a crane."

"Is that so?" exclaimed his friend. "I didn't know they had such fierce birds in America."

## Proverb Disproved

THE Hyena remarked to his wife, "As you know, I have laughed all my life. If one 'laughs and grows fat,' Pray how happens it that I'm as thin as the edge of a knife?"

## CANDIDATE'S SPEECHES

DURING an election two supporters of one of the candidates were discussing his prospects.

"Do you think our candidate puts enough fire into his speeches?"

"Oh, yes," was the reply; "the trouble is that he does not put some of his speeches into the fire."

## Sad Tale of a Bumble Bee

THE bumble bee, the bumble bee, He flew to the top of the tulip tree;

He flew to the top, but he could not stop, For he had to get home to his early tea.

The bumble bee, the bumble bee, He flew away from the tulip tree; But he made a mistake and flew into the lake,

And he never got home to his early tea.

## OTHER WORLDS

IN the evening Mercury, Venus, and Saturn are in the west, and Jupiter is in the south-west.

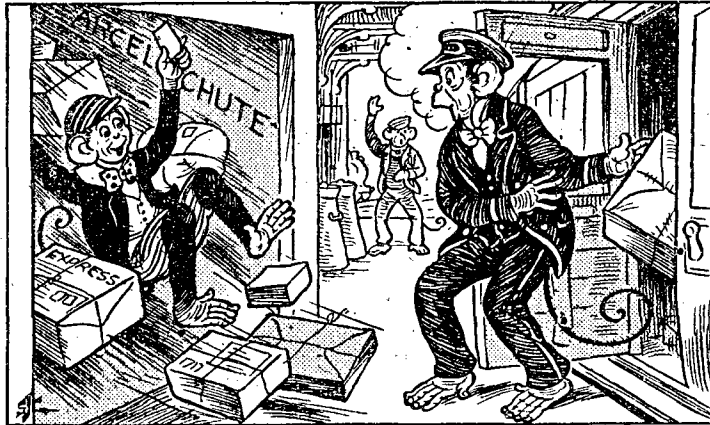
In the morning Mars is in the south-east. The picture shows the Moon as it may be seen at 11.30 on the evening of Wednesday, April 21.



evening of Wednesday, April 21.

# THE BRAN TUB

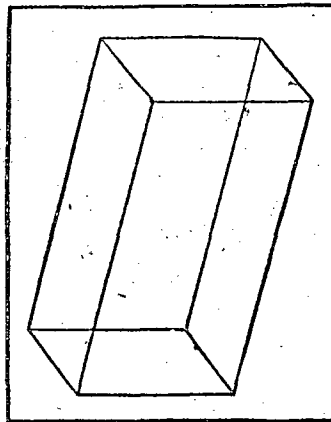
## Jacko Makes It



JACKO, who was in a terrific hurry, got to the station just as the train was ready to start. There was no time to cross the bridge, so he jumped into the luggage chute and shot down on to the platform. The astonished porter picked him up with the rest of the parcels, threw him into the guard's van, and slammed the door. "Coo!" grinned Jacko, rubbing his shins. "Caught it!"

## Optical Illusion

LOOK steadily at this outline drawing of a brick and decide whether it is tilted towards you or away from you. After a



few seconds it will appear to tumble over and you will not be sure whether it is leaning one way or the other.

## Finishing Touches

I'm going to be an artist, And I'm pretty sure I could, Cos Daddy's done a picture And it isn't very good.

He's painted little Jimmy, And it's like he might have been If Jimmy's hair was tidy And if Jimmy's face was clean.

He's put him on a footstool Like the footstool we have got; But the legs are nice and shiny, And the legs of ours are not.

So I'm going to paint the scratches, And I'm going to dirty Jim, And I'll make him nice and ugly, Then we're sure to know it's him.

## Happy Duck

QUACKED a duck in a thunder-storm, "I

Feel exceedingly happy—and why?

My umbrella's at home,

So uncovered I roam,

And forget that I ever was dry!"

## STRANGERS

A NEGRO private in the U.S. Army was very much battered by a refractory mule.

"Hey, Pete," said the sergeant, "you told me you were the best mule tender in the Army."

"So I am," replied Pete. "But dat's a new mule, and nobody told de creature who I was."

## Solo

THE bass drummer in the village band was so small that he could hardly see round his big drum.

During a march one day the band turned into a side street, but the drummer went straight ahead, banging merrily away.

"Hi, there!" shouted a spectator. "The band's left you."

"What does that matter!" answered the drummer. "I know the tune without it."

## Cross Word Puzzle

WE regret that in last week's Cross Word Puzzle some of the squares were wrongly numbered. To all who were unable to arrive at the correct solution given below we offer our apologies.

## LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

PAY	OZONE
E	X
A	P
R	O
O	N
E	E
ACRE	QUEST
K	EDGE
S	S
D	S
A	P
B	A
T	R
R	E
R	E
U	S
ARUM	EAST
N	B
E	A
R	D
E	E
E	V
V	E
N	T
E	L
M	M

Topsy-Turvy. Tree.

The Bag of Sweets  
He bought two shillingsworth of sweets at four a penny.

Here is  
**YOUR chance**  
to help!

JOIN the Children's League of Pity—the Junior Branch of the NATIONAL SOCIETY for the PREVENTION OF CRUELTY to CHILDREN (President: H.R.H. Princess Elizabeth)—which is stopping ignorant and cruel parents from neglecting and ill-treating children.

Its objects are:

To give younger people an opportunity of helping unfortunate children throughout the land.

To do this by giving up something for others and not by collecting money by canvassing. Membership of the League gives a sound sense of responsibility and is an education in good citizenship.



Every member who gives 10/- is awarded this splendid badge. It is a great privilege to wear it and to make other children happy.

Why not write to the Secretary for full details?

**The CHILDREN'S LEAGUE of PITY**

VICTORY HOUSE, LEICESTER SQUARE, LONDON, W.C.2.

May we send a speaker to your school to tell you how our Inspectors help these less fortunate children?

## ABSOLUTELY FREE!

We will give you — absolutely free — the very attractive stamp which the Free Dutch Government in London have just issued (February 1st, 1943) for the Dutch West Indies islands of Curacao. This extremely handsome stamp is in two colours and shows the Dutch Flag flying over the old Fort at Saint Eustatius. Three old cannon can be seen in the foreground of the stamp, while inset is a portrait of Her Royal Highness Queen Wilhelmina of the Netherlands (Holland), who is now in London. The Dutch Government have told us that no more stamps will be available when present supplies are exhausted. This very interesting and historical issue should be in every collection. It will increase the value and interest of any collection, and you can get this stamp from us Absolutely Free by asking to see one of our Approval Selections. Also you must send us 3d. in stamps to cover cost of our postage. Only one of these Gifts can be sent free to each applicant.



Write now to  
**WINDSOR STAMP CO. (Dept. CN), UCKFIELD, SUSSEX**

## Nations Great and Nations Small

THE BOY TALKS WITH THE MAN

Boy. Do you think that, when this war ends, a new League of Nations will be set up to preserve peace and help the nations to help each other?

Man. The thoughts of men naturally turn to the establishment of a World League or World Parliament, but the failure of the first attempt to establish a league naturally fills them with doubt. Let us remind ourselves of the original proposal for a League of Nations made by President Woodrow Wilson ten months before the last war ended. President Wilson proposed in his Point 14 that "A general association of nations must be formed under specific covenants for the purpose of affording mutual guarantees of political independence and territorial integrity to great and small States alike." It was hoped that all nations would join the League, but unfortunately the United States itself refused to join, and refused even to allow President Wilson to sign the peace treaties.

Boy. That must have been very serious for the prospects of the League?

Man. It was so serious that the failure of the League may be mainly attributed to its abandonment by so great a Power. The ideal conception of democracy led

President Wilson to conceive a League consisting of "great and small States alike," and now, with the Second World War yet unfinished, we find world statesmen wondering what to do to embody that idea in the constitution of a new League.

Fortunately, while there may be differences of opinion in America as to the future relation of the American State to a World League, there has arisen a great body of American opinion in favour of the future organisation of the world.

Boy. Has anything definite been yet decided?

Man. No; but some very striking words were uttered by the Prime Minister in his last broadcast, when he spoke of "a world institution embodying or representing the United Nations, and some day all nations," and that possibly there might come into being a Council of Europe and a Council of Asia. He also spoke of a really effective League with a High Court to adjust disputes and with armed forces ready to enforce its decision and so prevent war. He could not speak of these things with greater definition because any such arrangements must be the subject of lengthy conference. Mr Churchill did, however, ask what was to happen to small nations, and suggested that they might group themselves together.

Boy. But why depart from the original idea of a League of Nations, with a worldwide membership, including nations great and small?

Man. Obviously the League could not consist solely of a Council of Europe and a Council of Asia, and the grouping of the medium and small States within them might prove difficult. Then there is Russia, which spreads right across the world. Presumably if these two Councils were set up Russia would have to be a member of both. And, of course, there is a great world outside Europe and Asia.

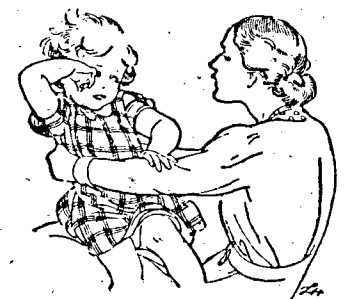
Boy. If the League were to decide to maintain a permanent League Force, who would supply its soldiers, airmen, and sailors?

Man. A number of suggestions have been made since the last world war was fought, and among them is that a World League could be content to abolish all fighting forces save for the establishment of a League Air Force to patrol the world, paid for by all the nations and acting as a Peace Policeman. You will see that the World Conference which will end the war will be charged with the solution of many difficult and dangerous problems; it is certainly not too soon to be discussing them.

## EVERY CHILD NEEDS A SPRING CLEAN

Pimples and spots on the face humiliate a child and leave nasty scars. They are sure signs that the bowels are clogged with sour, bilious poisons which inflame the blood.

For a quick, safe remedy there is nothing like 'California Syrup of Figs' to cleanse the system and purify the blood. Get a bottle of 'California Syrup of Figs' today and give the little one a dose at bedtime. In the morning the bowels will act perfectly; gently yet thoroughly removing the poisonous waste. Continue 'California Syrup of Figs' for a few nights and the skin will be clear, fresh, glowing with a beautiful healthy colour. Better still, you will see a wonderful improvement in the child's health. For 'California Syrup of Figs' is



a natural health-giving, invigorating, blood-purifying laxative.

Many mothers have adopted the plan of a dose of 'California Syrup of Figs' once a week. It keeps the child regular, happy and well. Doctors and nurses recommend 'California Syrup of Figs.' Obtainable everywhere. 1/4 and 2/6. The larger size is the cheaper in the long run. Be sure you get 'California Syrup of Figs' brand.